

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6522

BILL NUMBER: HB 1056

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 30, 2004

BILL AMENDED: Jan 29, 2004

SUBJECT: Domestic Violence and Dissolution of Marriage.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Mays

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill provides that in a dissolution of marriage or legal separation, a court may order an individual to pay certain expenses to the spouse if the individual committed domestic or family violence against the spouse.

Effective Date: July 1, 2004.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: This bill allows the court to order an individual to pay a reasonable amount to the individual's spouse for: (1) attorney's fees; (2) mediation fees; (3) arbitration fees; or (4) other expenses to maintain or defend a proceeding under this article; if the spouse was a victim of domestic or family violence committed by the individual. The bill requires a hearing be held in order to determine the amount of money owed by the individual. It also requires the spouse to petition the court to initiate the hearing. The bill allows both parties to subpoena witnesses and present evidence. This bill could potentially increase court time. Any additional court time and cost would depend on the number of persons that choose to petition the court.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, city and town courts.

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Sarah Brooks, 317-232-9559.